

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIE-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 INRE-00 SIL-01 /024 W

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O 061745Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2362

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 16984

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, GW

SUBJECT: CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGES

1. I UNDERSTAND THAT OMB HAS RAISED QUESTIONS WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY RICHARDSON ABOUT THE FY 78 LEVEL OF, OR EVEN THE CONTINUING NEED FOR, USG FUNDED EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGES PROGRAMS IN WESTERN EUROPE. I AM PROMPTED, THEREFORE, TO SEND THIS CABLE OUT OF A DEEP CONCERN THAT THE PRESENT CORDIAL STATE OF OUR RELATIONS WITH THE FRG NOT LULL US INTO BELIEVING WE CAN NOW TURN OUR ATTENTIONS AND RESOURCES ELSEWHERE.

2. IN THE MISSION'S POLICY ASSESSMENT PAPER ON THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (BONN 09150, 5/28/76, SECRET), WE NOTED THAT U.S.-FRG RELATIONS WHICH, AS YOU KNOW, ARE FUNDAMENTAL TO AMERICAN SECURITY INTERESTS IN EUROPE AND AROUND THE WORLD, ARE IN EXCELLENT SHAPE; THAT THESE RELATIONS DID NOT JUST HAPPEN, AND LIKE FRIENDSHIPS BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS, THEY MUST BE CULTIVATED IF THEY ARE TO REMAIN GOOD. OUR OFFICIAL EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGES PROGRAMS HAVE HELPED GREATLY TO FORGE THESE CLOSE TIES WITH THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC.

3. SOME MAY ARGUE THAT OUR EXCHANGES ACTIVITIES CAN BE CUT BACK, OR, AT MOST, BE MAINTAINED AT THE GOING RATE

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BECAUSE, AFTER ALL, AREN'T THE GERMANS NOW OUR GOOD

FRIENDS AND AREN'T THERE ENOUGH PRIVATE EXCHANGES
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES TO KEEP THEM SO? WITHOUT
MINIMIZING THE VALUE OF PRIVATE EXCHANGES, I WOULD MAKE
TWO OBSERVATIONS ABOUT THEM: FIRST, PRIVATE ACADEMIC
EXCHANGES OVER THE PAST DECADE HAVE AVERAGED ONLY ABOUT
2,000 GERMAN STUDENTS PER YEAR IN AMERICAN COLLEGES AND
UNIVERSITIES; AND, SECOND, THE MAJORITY OF THESE STU-
DENTS AND OF THE MANY, MANY MORE TOURISTS AND OTHER
TRAVELERS WHO COME PRIVATELY CONTRIBUTE ONLY
MINIMALLY TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF U.S. FOREIGN CULTURAL
POLICY OBJECTIVES. PRIVATE EXCHANGES ARE SIMPLY TOO
HAPHAZARD AND UNDIRECTED TO REACH, AND HAVE AN IMPACT
ON, THE GROUPS IN GERMAN SOCIETY MOST IMPORTANT TO US.
WE CANNOT TAKE THE CHANCE, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT SIGNI-
FICANT CONTACT BETWEEN GERMAN AND AMERICAN LABOR WILL
COME ABOUT THROUGH PRIVATE CHANNELS. A LONG DRY SPELL
IN THOSE CONTACTS HAS IMPROVED WITHIN THE PAST TWO
YEARS WITH THE FULBRIGHT COMMISSION'S GRANTS TO TWO
YOUNG DGB LEADERS TO ATTEND THE HARVARD TRADE
UNION SEMINAR, THE SELECTION OF MORE LABOR OFFICIALS
FOR IV GRANTS, AND THE CU-SPONSORED EXCHANGES BETWEEN
YOUNG AMERICAN AND GERMAN LABOR LEADERS. BECAUSE
ORGANIZED LABOR HAS SUCH GREAT INFLUENCE IN THE FRG, WE
RECOMMENDED IN THE POLICY ASSESSMENT PAPER REFERRED TO
EARLIER, AS WELL AS IN OUR EVALUATION OF THE FY 76 CU
PROGRAM (A-170, 6/23/76), AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT

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INSPECTORS ALSO PROPOSED IN THEIR MEMORANDUM LAST YEAR, THAT THERE BE A MAJOR INCREASE IN THE IV PROGRAM TO ENABLE US TO INVITE LEADERS AND POTENTIAL LEADERS OF THE GERMAN TRADE UNION FEDERATION TO VISIT THE U.S. BY THE SAME TOKEN, WE PROPOSED A QUANTUM JUMP IN THE NUMBER OF IV GRANTS IN ORDER TO REACH YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS. THE SUCCESS OF THE EMBASSY'S GROUP PROJECTS FOR JUSO'S, THE YOUTH WING OF THE SPD, AND JUDO'S FROM THE FDP LAST SUMMER AND OF THE CU-SPONSORED U.S. YOUTH COUNCIL VISITS OF GERMAN YOUTH ORGANIZATION AND YOUNG TRADE UNION LEADERS THIS FALL HAS OPENED THE DOORS TO GREATLY EXPANDED EMBASSY CONTACTS WITH THE NEXT GENERATION OF GERMAN POLITICAL, LABOR, AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS. BUT WE NEED THOSE ADDITIONAL FUNDS FROM CU TO MAINTAIN THE MOMENTUM. WE CANNOT EXPECT PRIVATE EXCHANGES TO DO IT FOR US.

4. THAT NEW GENERATION OF LEADERS I SPEAK OF IS ABOUT TO MOVE CENTER STAGE IN THIS COUNTRY. MOST HAVE NOT HAD THE PERSONAL EXPERIENCES AS STUDENTS OR OFFICIAL VISITORS TO THE U.S. THAT THE PRESENT LEADERSHIP ENJOYED, AND FROM WHICH AMERICAN RELATIONS WITH THE FRG HAVE BENEFITED. AT THE SAME TIME, THEY ARE WILLING, EVEN EAGER, TO ENGAGE IN DIALOGUE WITH US AND ARE INCREASINGLY AWARE OF THE WEB OF RELATIONS WHICH BIND OUR TWO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COUNTRIES TOGETHER. MY CONCERN IS THAT, FOR LACK OF WISDOM OR FORESIGHT, WE WILL MISS THE MOMENT TO REACH AND INFLUENCE THEM, TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS INTEREST AND RECEPTIVITY, BECAUSE WE WILL NOT HAVE THE FUNDS FOR THE EXPANDED EXCHANGES PROGRAM REQUIRED. HILLENBRAND

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